DC

11

THE FLASH™

SPURRIER
PÉREZ
HERMS

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CAMOLA

13+ TEEN

DAWN OF DC

THE RACE FOR HOME!

DC

August

4 WEEKLY ISSUES
3 FABULOUS VILLAINS
2 PARANORMAL BUNNYGIRLS
1 HOMICIDAL HOT TUB STREAMER
∞ HIMBO COWBOYS

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YOU CAN'T KEEP A BAD GIRL DOWN!

GOTHAM CITY SIRENS

Written by LEAH WILLIAMS
Art by MATTEO LOLLI and DANIEL HILLYARD
Covers by TERRY DODSON

"CONSIDER THE SACRED MYSTERIES OF THE COSMOS.

"THEY DO NOT ACCORD WITH SOME TAWDRY **PYRAMID** OF PREDATION AND PREY. THE HIGHEST POWERS DO NOT **FEAST** UPON THE LOWEST.

"THEY **CREATE.** THEY **ECHO** THEIR MAGNIFICENCE DOWNWARD.

"OURS IS A REALITY OF **EMANATION.**

"PICTURE IT. AN ENDLESS RIVER OF **INFLUENCE,** PERCUSSING DOWNWARD FROM THE CATARACTS OF COMPLEXITY...

"IF ONE HAD THE WIT TO TRACE EACH **TROUGH** AND **PEAK,** WHAT MIGHT ONE THEN PERCEIVE?

"WE SHALL **TELL** YOU. SSSHH. WE SHALL TELL YOU.

A DIVINE RIPPLE, LINKING THE SIMPLE TO THE SUPREME.

AN UNBROKEN WAVEFORM, WALLY WEST, IN THE FRACTAL FOAM OF ALL THINGS.

"SO PROFOUND IS THIS LINK-- THIS SACRED CONDUIT--

"--THAT IF ONE COULD REVERSE ITS FLOW, WHY...

"...WHAT MISCHIEF MIGHT THE HUMBLEST MAKE UPON THE HIGHEST?

YOU ARE **EMPTY,** WALLY WEST. BY OUR ACTIONS YOU HAVE BEEN **HOLLOWED.** BUT WE HAVE LEARNED MUCH ABOUT THE SHELL THAT REMAINS.

YOU ARE A BEING OF **MOTIVE.** YOU DEPEND UPON A CERTAIN **FAITH** TO GUIDE YOUR ACTIONS.

WE HAD HOPED THE **CORONA CONTRARIUM** WOULD COMPEL YOU BY **FORCE** OF WILL--

"--BUT ITS FAILURE TO MASTER YOUR **MENTOR,** BARRY ALLEN, NECESSITATES A DIFFERENT POLICY.

"WHERE SOME SEEK MEANING, OR GLORY, **YOU** REQUIRE ONLY THE KNOWLEDGE THAT YOU CAN MAKE THINGS BETTER.

"SO WE OFFER YOU ANSWERS.

IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND THE MACHINERY OF **THE EVERYTHING.**

SO YOU CAN HELP US **FIX** IT.

I... I don't understand--

ARC ANGLES! DIVINITIES OF THE CURVED CORNER! WE ARE THE *STILLNESS!*

WE HAVE SPENT AN EON OF EONS TRYING TO CATCH YOUR ATTENTION!

YOU WILL IGNORE US NO LONGER!

All right, *all right*... SETTLE DOWN.

CLOSED BY ORDER OF THE BUREAU OF SOVEREIGNTY

THE FLASH MUSEUM

THERE'S A TON WE DON'T KNOW. SPEED FORCE HICCUPS, VILLAINS BEHIND THE SCENES, COSMIC TENTACLES. It's a *lot.*

BUT WE N--

BARRY. With respect.

THERE'S ONLY ***ONE MYSTERY*** WE OUGHT TO BE SOLVING.

WHAT THE #$%& IS HAPPENING?!

I MEAN--

--WHERE'S WALLY?

WHO'S GOT MY HUSBAND?

THE STILLNESS ARE TRYING TO PROVOKE US, AS WE KNEW THEY WOULD.

THEY BELIEVE THAT IF THEY THREATEN YOU, WE WILL GIVE THEM WHAT THEY WANT.

WH-WHICH IS WHAT?

"PEACE.

PEACE

THE STILLNESS WERE AMONG THE FIRST TO HARNESS THE DEEP CHANGE, WHEN CREATION WAS YOUNG. THEY WERE OUR EMANATION.

IN OUR HUNGER TO CREATE, WE HELPED THEM BECOME IMMORTAL...

HERE. LET OUR ETERNAL EXPLORERS SHOW YOU WHAT THEY HAVE LEARNED...

WE... WE LEARNED WITHIN OUR FIRST EPOCH-- ***WONDER*** IS FLEETING.

Beauty, creation, order-- all ***brief*** juvenilities. WHAT ENDURES IS ***HORROR.***

PAIN. WAR. THE CONVULSIONS OF AN INDIFFERENT MULTIVERSE. ON A QUADRILLION WORLDS, THE BRILLIANT AND BANAL SUFFER ALIKE.

...WE TRIED TO ***ARMOR*** OURSELVES. BECAME IMMUTABLE-- ***STILL!*** -- YET THE ATROCITIES ***WHIRLED ONWARD*** AROUND US.

WE CAME TO SEE THAT THE WEAPON OF OUR TORTURE WAS ***CHANGE.***

WHY? WHERE LIES THE ROOT OF ALL THIS DESPAIR? THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE.

IN EVERY DEATH, EVERY DISASTER-- A ***TRANSITION.*** ONE CONDITION BECOMES ANOTHER...

TIME. TIME IS AN ***ABOMINATION.***

MM. IT TOOK THEM RATHER LONGER THAN US TO **DIAGNOSE,** BUT WE **AGREE** ON THE CAUSE. WE DIFFER ONLY ON A **REMEDY.**

THE **STILLNESS** BELIEVE THE SOLUTION IS TO **KILL** THEMSELVES.

WE THINK THE ANSWER IS TO KILL TIME.

THINK HOW **ORDERED** REALITY COULD BE WITHOUT IT. HOW **TIDY.** HOW **KIND!** HOW--

--WALLY? ARE YOU LISTENING TO US?

I... I...

"...I had... someone, who... **loved** me..."

"HM. STILL THE **DISTRACTIONS,** EVEN NOW. ΞTTΞ HE REQUIRES **FOCUS.**

YOU. **STILLNESS.** WE ARE PREPARED TO GIVE YOU DEATH-- BUT THERE IS A PRICE. YOU MUST MAKE THE FOOL **RUN.**

HE WILL NOT RUN **FROM.** IT IS NOT IN HIS NATURE.

WE ACCEPT.

SENTIENT ORGANIC. WE ARE VERY BORED. IT IS OUR INTENTION TO VISIT YOUR ***HOMEWORLD,*** TO COMMIT RANDOM GENOCIDE.

Wh-what? B-but...

WE SHALL TRAVEL ***SIDEWAYS,*** THROUGH THE MANY PLANES. YOU SHALL ***NOT*** CATCH US.

...Hrr.

LIKE HELL I WON'T.

WE JUST... DON'T ***KNOW,*** LINDA. I'M SORRY.

PERHAPS IT WOULD HELP TO REFLECT ON WHAT WE ***DO*** KNOW.

WE... KNOW OUR POWERS HAVE BEEN GLITCHY... THAT THERE ARE DIMENSIONAL DISASTERS ALL OVER... THAT THE ***SPEED FORCE*** IS IN SPASM...

IT'S NOT ***JUST*** THE SPEED FORCE.

Pfft. When's it *not?*

TIME-TRAVELERS. COSMIC ELEMENTALS. YOU GUYS NEED TO THINK ***BIGGER.***

WAIT, DIDN'T ***JULES*** GET AFFECTED, TOO? IS SOMETHING UP WITH THE ***STILL FORCE*** AS WELL?

Uh.

A-ACTUALLY, I THINK MAYBE WE'VE HAD THAT ALL WRONG. *Like...* ***"FAST"...."STILL"--*** THEY'RE NOT ***BINARY*** POSITIONS, ARE THEY?

I THINK IT'S A ***SPECTRUM.***

I THINK WE'RE ALL DOTS ON THE SAME LINE. *Like,* WHAT HURTS ONE OF US HURTS US ***ALL.***

Uh.

A-AS A MATTER OF FACT-- *sorry,* hi--

--I THINK IT'S LESS OF A LINE AND MORE OF A-- AN ***OCEAN.*** I THINK IT'S ***ALL*** CONNECTED.

FOCUS.

GOOD. FOCUS ON THE RUNNING. DO NOT LISTEN TO OUR WORDS. MERELY ***ABSORB*** THEM.

A-ALL THESE ***BOUNDARIES. FORCE WALLS*** AND ***LIGHT BARRIERS.*** YOUR SAGE FORCE AND STRENGTH FORCE AND ALL THAT. I'VE BEEN KINDA... ***TINKERING*** WITH IT...

...I THINK THEY'RE ALL JUST PART OF ***SOMETHING BIGGER.***

OOH! THERE'S SOMETHING ***ELSE!***

HERE IS THE ***SECRET,*** WALLY WEST.

HERE IS WHY WE ARE USING YOU AS WE ARE.

I GOT THIS FROM-- *w-well, n-never mind.* IT'S BASICALLY ***SUPER-SPEED*** IN A POT.

THING IS... I-IT ***DIDN'T*** COME FROM THE SPEED FORCE. IT'S JUST ***CONCENTRATED*** FROM-- I dunno.

FROM THE ***NORMAL*** WORLD.

LIKE IT'S JUST... ***THERE.*** ALL AROUND US. ***ALWAYS.***

DEEP.

CHANGE.

I'M, *uh*, I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO ***TELL*** YOU FOLKS WHAT I KNOW-- that's how ***temporal paradoxes*** happen-- BUT...I THINK WHAT MY BRILLIANT ***SIBLINGS*** HERE ARE GETTING AT--

Wait-- who are you again?

--IS THAT THESE ***COSMIC POWERS*** ARE ALL EXPRESSIONS OF A UNIVERSAL CONSTANT. SOMETHING THAT'S ALWAYS ***THERE.***

SOMETHING THAT SPEAKS TO FUNDAMENTAL... DYNAMIC... ***CHANGE.***

Hint, hint.

YOU'RE SAYING... THE ***SPEED FORCE...*** ***ALL*** THE FORCES... THEY'RE...

...THEY'RE MADE OF ***TIME.***

FASTER.

WE APPROACH THE LIGHT BARRIER. HE MUST BREACH IT-- AND MORE.

THAWNE-- DO YOUR PART.

YOU WON'T CAAAATCH THEM.

YOU'RE TOO SLOW!

TOO STUPID!

TOO DISTRACTED!

THEY'RE GONNA KILL EVERYTHING YOU LOVE!

EVERYTHING YOU'VE FORGOTTEN!

FLASH

HAVE YOU NEVER WONDERED, WALLY WEST?

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MUCH YOU AND YOUR FELLOWS UTILIZE THIS POWER... THIS RESOURCE... IT ALWAYS SEEMS TO REPLENISH.

PLENTIFUL. BOUNTIFUL.

LIKE THE BREATH OF SOME SLEEPING GIANT...

I TOO HAVE AN INSIGHT TO SHARE, FRIENDS. A **VISION.**

ON THE CUSP OF TRANSCENDENCE, I SAW A CREATURE-- IN **DISTRESS.** ***Hunted.*** At bay. RACKED WITH PAIN.

SOME OF YOU WILL THINK THIS **ABSURD,** BUT... THIS THING YOU CALL THE **SPEED FORCE...** I THINK... WHATEVER ITS **SOURCE...**

IT'S **ALIVE.**

YES. A **BEING.** OUTSIDE. OUTSIDE **EVERYTHING.**

NO POINT TRYING TO IMAGINE IT. **WE** CANNOT-- HOW COULD YOU? PICTURE INSTEAD SOME... **BRUTE BEAST.**

PICTURE THE WARMTH OF ITS BODY... THE DRIP OF ITS **SWEAT** AND **BLOOD,** ONTO THE SNOW OF **COLD REALITY.**

YOU UNDERSTAND? MERELY BY **EXISTING,** THE BEAST COMPELS THE SNOW TO MELT.

"EMANATIONS. EMANATIONS FROM ABOVE, TO **ALTER** THE WORLD BELOW.

"IN THIS MANNER DOES THE **DEEP CHANGE** EXERT ITS INFLUENCE FROM BEYOND THE SOURCE WALL, ONTO THESE TAWDRY PLANES."

WHEN WE IMAGINE IT... WE IMAGINE IT SLEEPING.

WHILE IT LIVES, ITS DREAMS FLOW AROUND US. THEY FILL THE COSMOS. WE CANNOT ESCAPE THEM.

TIME. YOU UNDERSTAND? ITS DREAMS ARE TIME.

I THINK IT'S **SCARED**... AND IN **PAIN.** THOUGH I DO NOT KNOW WHAT IS HURTING IT...

Psst... Liiiinda...

WADE? COULD YOU, *uh.* COULD YOU JUST **HOLD YOURSELF** FOR A SEC? CALL OF NATURE.

Uhm--

ALSO, I THINK YOU MIGHT NEED **BURPING.**

BUT...TIME **ISN'T** A CONSTANT. I'VE MAPPED ENOUGH OF THE MULTIVERSE TO KNOW.

IT'S PRETTY REGULAR **INSIDE** THE FORCE WALL, BUT-- THE **OUTER** SPHERES? THERE ARE PLACES WHERE TIME GOES FASTER, SLOWER, BACKWARD--

Apple pie.

WHAT?

YOU GOT THE CRUST, THE FILLING... SOME ICE CREAM, IF YOU'RE LUCKY. WHOLE BUNCHA DIFFERENT TEXTURES, ALL UNEVENLY SPREAD-- BUT IT'S STILL **ONE DESSERT.**

So time's a *pie* now. WHAT'S THAT MAKE US? **TEA-SPOONS?**

PARASITES.

YOU FEW.

YOU BRIGHT LITTLE BUGS, REACHING THROUGH ITS MEMBRANES, DEEP INTO ITS WARMTH...

This is **so** dumb. They're arguing about **pie** instead of **taking action.**

It's a **metaphor.** It's actually pretty creative.

If they're not gonna get out there and figure out what's goin' on, **we** should!

Yefff! There'ff no more donufff anyway!

YOU **SUCKLE** THE RAW STUFF OF **TIME** AND YOU CONVERT IT, EACH TO THEIR STRENGTHS-- BY MUSCLE OR MIND--

--INTO THE POWER OF **CHANGE.**

ALL RIGHT, THE POINT **IS,** WHATEVER'S GOING ON, WALLY'S BEEN ISOLATED. **USED.** WE NEED TO KNOW WHO'S BEHIND IT-- AND **WHY.**

ANYBODY GOT ANY IDEAS?

YOU ARE THE **FATTEST** TICK OF ALL, WALLY WEST.

...uh.

SHOOM

YOU ARE THE CYNOSURE. THE CLEAREST CONDUIT BETWEEN THE DEEP CHANGE AND THIS GROTESQUE MULTIVERSE. WE KNEW WE NEEDED YOU.

YET YOU WERE... IMPERFECT.

"DISTRACTED.

A LEECH WITH OBLIGATIONS. WE NEEDED TO FOCUS YOU. TO CLARIFY YOUR CONNECTION.

I... I don't und--

AND WE HAVE MOVED HEAVEN AND EARTH TO DO IT.

"WE HAVE MADE FUGITIVES OF YOUR FAMILY AND TURNED YOUR WORLD AGAINST YOU.

WE HAVE OVERLOADED YOU. WE HAVE SPLIT THE LOYALTIES OF YOUR LOVED ONES.

AND WHEN THE STRAIN THREATENED TO BREAK YOU--

"--WE GAVE YOU A PLACE OF PEACE--

"--AND FORGETFULNESS--

"--TO STRIP YOU BARE."

"WE HAVE GALVANIZED **AGENTS** WITH PROMISES OF POWER WE NEVER MEANT TO KEEP.

"ONE BY ONE THEY HAVE **FAILED**-- OR BEEN **FELLED.** IT DOESN'T MATTER.

"THEIR TASK WAS COMPLETE THE MOMENT YOU TURNED AWAY FROM YOUR LIFE.

fold fold fold fold fold fold fold fold fold fold fold fold fold fold fold fold fold fold fold fold

"THE MOMENT YOU BECAME THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE-- AND **NOTHING ELSE.**

"THEY WILL NOT RECEIVE THE REWARDS THEY SOUGHT. BUT THEY SHALL PARTAKE OF OUR SALVATION, AS WILL **ALL** LIVING THINGS."

--NOTHING ELSE-- --NOTHING ELSE-- --NOTHING ELSE-- --NOTHING ELSE-- --NOTHING ELSE-- --NOTHING ELSE--

WHAT SALVATION?!

WH-WHY ARE YOU **DOING** ALL THIS?!

AH. HERE IS WHERE THE **analogy** CRUMBLES. THE PARASITE AND ITS HOST.

DO YOU SUPPOSE A **SUPREME BEING** WOULD SUFFER BEING **LEECHED** IF IT DID NOT CONSENT?

NO. NO, **LITTLE CONDUIT.** THERE IS **RECIPROCITY** AT WORK HERE. THE **DEEP CHANGE** GETS SOMETHING IN RETURN FOR LETTING YOU DRINK ITS TIME.

HOW DO WE **KNOW?**

BECAUSE IT.

CHOSE.

YOU.

"IT CHOSE ALL OF YOU.

"FOR ALL YOUR IMPERFECTIONS. YOUR COMPLICATIONS. THE BURDENS OF YOUR BUSY, BANAL LITTLE LIVES. IT CHOSE **YOU.**"

--BANAL LITTLE LIFE--

--BAN LITT LIFE

WHY?

WE THEORIZE... WE **BELIEVE...** THAT JUST AS **YOU** DRINK ITS POWER--

"--IT BREATHES YOUR LOVE."

YOU ARE ITS EYES. ITS EARS. THE SKIN OF ITS FINGERTIPS.

A **SENSORY ORGAN,** DANGLED INTO THESE LOWER SPHERES, TO **FEEL** ITS CREATION. TO **KNOW** ITS CHILDREN.

AND WE HAVE STARVED IT. THROUGH YOU, WE HAVE MADE IT **BLIND.** SO THAT WHEN WE OPEN THE CONDUIT--

--WHEN YOU BREAK THE **BARRIER OF CREATION** ITSELF--

--IT WILL GULP WHATEVER POISON WE FEED IT.

THROUGH YOU... WE WILL KILL THE SOURCE OF TIME... AND BRING PEACE TO HER CREATION.

:Hrnf!: DO... DO YOU ALL FEEL THAT...?

Wh--wherever he is...

...H-here's what I don't understand...

LIKE A BREATH. LIKE THE WORLD TAKING A BREATH.

ARC ANGLES! WE--WE CANNOT KEEP THIS UP! WE CANNOT TRAVEL ANY FASTER!

PLEASE. IS IT DONE?

IT IS DONE.

YOU HAVE EARNED YOUR ENDING.

...WHY DIDN'T HE COME BACK TO ME? HE ALWAYS COMES BACK. HE--HE SAID... HE SAID HE'D LOVE ME--

BEHOLD... THE BRINK OF INFINITY. THE EDGE OF THE CURVED CORNER.

ONE LAST PUSH!

--YOUR ENDING--

--ENDING-- --ENDING-- --ENDING-- --ENDING--

THAWNE... OH, REALITY-VENOM... ANATHEMA TO ALL ORDER... PREPARE YOURSELF...

--UNTIL--

Hrrn--!

--READY--

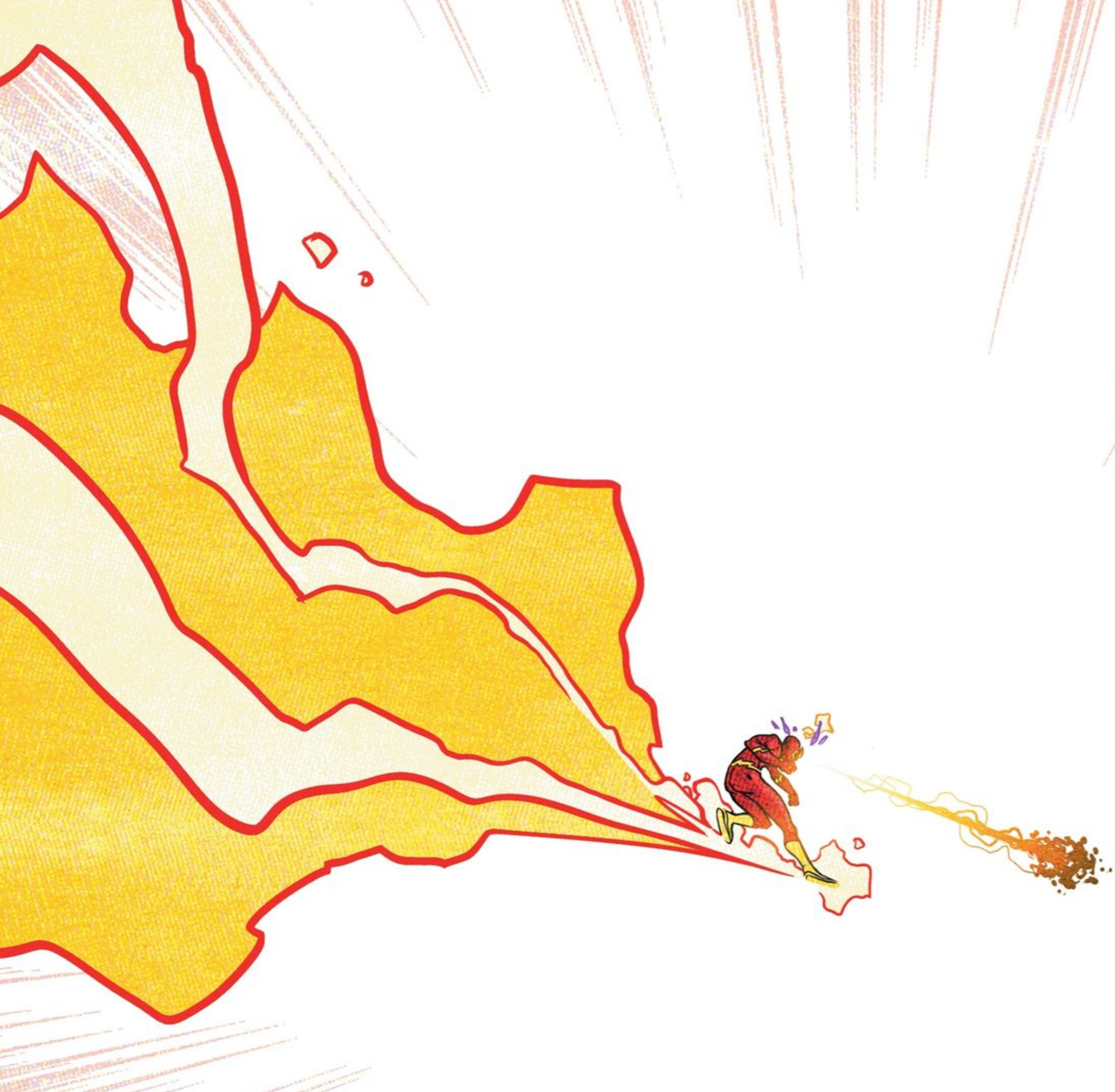
--TIME--

--STANDS--

--ARM--

--STILL

--DEPLOY.



ISSUE ELEVEN: "CUTTING THE PIE"

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TO BE CONTINUED...

Life on Apokolips is hell.
And she's ready to break free.

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DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

THE NICE HOUSE BY THE SEA

INTERVIEW WITH JAMES TYNION IV

James Tynion IV and Álvaro Martínez Bueno's Eisner Award-winning horror series begins its second cycle in *The Nice House by the Sea*. Amongst a world in disaster, Max has summoned a group of gifted individuals to carry on the flame of civilization in a paradise built just for them. Can they usher humanity into a new future, or will they get what they deserved? James Tynion IV sat down with DC Nation to dive into the mysteries behind this highly anticipated series.

How does this specific location in *The Nice House by the Sea* play into the overall mystery?

The central concept has always been about these characters who are living in paradise, knowing that the world they came from is destroyed. In the first volume, we did a beautiful lake house, which honestly spoke to a lot of what I personally view as a kind of paradise. In *The Nice House by the Sea*, I knew we wanted to do a radical shift. It was Álvaro who suggested that we do a villa on the Mediterranean coastline and let that set the design aesthetic for the entire piece. When Álvaro started sending us designs of the new Nice House, we knew it was the absolute right move.

Are the guests and location of this house different from what we saw in *The Nice House on the Lake*?

In *The Nice House on the Lake*, the character Walter brought together the people he loved most in the world, and that's why he wanted to save them from the end of the world. But we learned that he was breaking the rules. For the second cycle, I wanted to show a house where somebody followed the rules. These are ten exceptional human beings at the top of their fields. But a lot of the tension comes from the fact that instead of being a group of friends who've known each other for years, these are ten highly competitive people who do not like each other.

Can you tease out a scene that will get fans really excited?

Nice House is a hard series to tease about because it's always been defined by its twists. I promise that *The Nice House by the Sea* is going to have the same kinds of twists and turns as the first series. You really don't know what's coming at the end of that first issue!

What has it been like to reteam with Álvaro Martínez Bueno, and what stylistic choices is he bringing to this new location?

Aside from the personal angle, Álvaro lives and grew up in Spain. He is bringing a lot of his own aesthetic interests from that experience into the creation of this Nice House. I think he's one of the finest artists working in the industry today, and the fact that my inbox gets to see so much beautiful art come in from both him and Jordie Bellaire is a dream come true. I'm just excited to be able to share it with the world.

DON'T MISS
THE NICE HOUSE BY THE SEA #1
THIS JULY

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